Essay Phrases

Introductions

- This novel explores the notion that...
- The poem investigates the tensions between....
- This play examines the difficulties of..
- At the center of this novel is the concept of...
- At the heart of this play is the idea that...
- Shakespeare uses a range of literary devices to explore the idea that...
- The novel is an indictment of the American dream itself.

Starters
for the beginning of essays, sections or paragraphs

- Firstly, …
- In terms of....
- *(In terms of language, this poem features several..)*
- Initially, it appears that...
- In order to….. X first needs to be explained/ outlined.
- To begin with…
- At first glance, it would seem that...
- There are differing explanations/opinions as to why….
- It is first necessary to explain…

Analyzing language

- This symbolizes...
- This indicates...
- This represents....
- The use of metaphors and similes explore the notion that...
- This signifies the fact that....
- The choice of the word '____' is significant because it signifies that...
- This alludes to the fact that.. (Hints at or refers to something else.)
- The alliterative phrase '_____' symbolizes....
- The use of repetition emphasizes the fact that...
- These images function as metaphors which serve to illustrate....

Analyzing language 2.

The word '___' has connotations of death, signifying that the poet feels....
Shakespeare packs the stanza with densely figurative language.
The word '____' creates the impression of...

Imagery

One of the most enduring (long lasting) images in this novel is.....

Curley's wife further symbolizes the American dream because of her desire to be in movies. This signifies the fact that she....

Curley's wife is the epitome (ultimate example) of the American dream, as she is something that is never fully realised.

Making a point

- Clearly,...
- It is evident that...
- Certainly, there is strong evidence that...
- It is apparent (clear) that...
- It can be argued that....
- In a sense, it would appear that..
- There can be no doubt that...

Supporting a point

- In addition,…
- Furthermore,…
- This is further shown by the fact that….
- This is further illustrated by….
- This idea is supported by X when he writes "……."

Developing a point

- Following on from this, it is also clear that...
- It must also be remembered that...
- Another important issue to consider when dealing with how '___' behaves is the fact that
- At first it seems that.... however, upon further examination is is evident that...
- On the one hand it would appear that....however from another perspective it could be said that.....

Compare/Contrast

Presenting a contrasting point in a new sentence or paragraph:

- In contrast to this,…..
- Conversely,...
- Alternatively, another possibility could be that..
- Whilst is maybe true that, ……..
- Furthermore…
- On the other hand…
- However,…
- A further point/reason is that…
- Although….
- In addition to these points, it could be argued that…
- In spite of this…

Ambiguity

DEFINITION: Ambiguity = words or phrases that have more than one meaning.

*****EXAM TIP:*** Correct use of the term ***ambiguity*** in essays is a useful way of showing the examiner that you are aware texts have more than one possible meaning.

- *This text is deliberately ambiguous. The phrase '_____' is clearly open to many different interpretations.*
- *The writer uses ambiguity to indicate that the character is not sure of himself.*
- *Words such as '___' and '___' are ambiguous and allow many different interpretations of the text.*
- *The ambiguous nature of this text serves to reinforce the idea that this is a subject that has no clear meaning.*

Connectives

To add to a point

And
Also
Furthermore
In addition
Too
Again
What is more
Moreover
As well as

To Persuade

Essentially..
Obviously
Naturally
Clearly
Certainly
evidently

To express Cause and Effect

Consequently
Thus
Hence
As a result
Because/as
Accordingly
Since
Until
Whenever
As long as

To emphasise

In particular
Notably
More importantly
Indeed
In fact
Notably
specifically

To Express Time

Subsequently
Firstly / secondly
Next / then
Once
At length
Eventually
Meanwhile

Conclusion

- Ultimately, this is a story about....
- in the final analysis, it is clear that...
- in spite of...
- Ostensibly, (basically) this novel deals with the issue of...
- By the end of the play, it is clearly evident that...
- Despite arguments/evidence to the contrary, it can be argued that….
- On balance, it can be argued that….
- As a result….
- Further questions that could be addressed concern whether…..
- This raises the further areas of investigation such as…

More

1. http://www.slideshare.net/englishbites/useful-argumentative-essay-words-and-phrases
2. http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:_1CeFHB2kisJ:https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/k-lee7/www/kesl/writ/arg_phrases.pdf+essay+phrases&hl=en&gl=uk&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEESib8VEREdQwtt4s_Mg-K76DHnUOJrMNuLAkqHLS79ukrSAWcazIFMAhqJmO--eLNI5H6nia-TioIW03CDwNfLXne6oIlrPADD9pglpUS3pnYLy6hOXRSgDb_oq29o7q01v0aI22&sig=AHIEtbSkDREt0gTRtaMgSpKamZwe5N1O5Q

temporal and spatial parameters